

Subject: Credit for Extra on Commercial License?
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Sep8.104054.1351@miavx3.mid.muohio.edu

> clmorgan@miavx3.mid.muohio.edu (Carl, K8NHE) writes:

> ...The FCC is contracting with
>private firms to take on the examination process. It is, though, a
>different group ... not the ham VEs ... that'll be doing the work.
>
>As to "de-emphasizing ..."; I'm not so sure about that. Having seen
>a lot of VE groups in action, I'd be hesitant to say they're not as
>demanding and quality-oriented as any Commission personnel ever were.
>If there's really a quality issue, it's not with the exam administrators,
>but with the exam content itself.

I think that if the FCC *really* cared about the quality of radio operators they would not have relinquished control over the examination process (commercial and amateur). Don't misunderstand me. The VE system is one of the best things to happen to amateur radio in its history. Still, it seems like the FCC is moving to a "don't care" position on commercial operator licensing. And maybe amateur as well.

Jim, W5GYJ

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1993 17:23:31 GMT
From: spsgate!mogate!newsgate!nuntius@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Credit for Extra on Commercial License? "911"
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <rcrw90-080993100617@node_142cf.aieg.mot.com> Mike Waters, rcrw90@email.mot.com writes:

>The FCC has already announced that they are de-emphasizing CW for
>commercial use, including eliminating the requirement for shipboard CW
>operators over the next few years. I too have reservations about how
good
>an idea this is, but it is happening.
>
>The shipboard argument is that satellite based systems are replacing the
>need for radio ops. You just call "911" if the ship is sinking I guess
:-)
>

This sounds kind of silly, doesn't it? "Just dial 911." However, in

1996 (I think) the first Iridium(tm) satellite goes up, with the full system operational in 1998. This is a Motorola cellular telephone system that gives you a phone similar in size to a current cellular phone (well, maybe a brick cellular phone), which you will be able to use anywhere in the world. When you turn on the phone, it will check for the existence of a local cell net, if there isn't one (e.g. at sea) it will contact one of 66 LEO satellites and tie you into the phone system anywhere in the world. I believe each phone will be equipped with a GPS also. With one of these phones on board, you literally could dial 911 and ask the Coast Guard to drop their donuts and come help. ;>)

This kind of phone will change a lot of things. People deep inside China or Iraq will be able to call anywhere in the world. It will be difficult for governments to control communications at all. Remember, the cell phone output will only be a couple of watts, not 100's or 1000's. It will also be digital, hence easily scrambled, and hard to detect. If you want to talk to 'Little America' on your ham rig, you'll be able to call them on the phone, schedule a ham conversation. You might even be able to receive a CW communication, have problems understanding it, then call the guy up where ever he is, and ask him to explain just what he was trying to telegraph to you! The times they are a changin!

"No man, woman, or child is safe as long as congress is in session." - Will Rogers

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1993 22:33:31 GMT
From: spsgate!mogate!newsgate!nuntius@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Credit for Extra on Commercial License? "911"
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Sep9.172331.29237@newsgate.sps.mot.com> Jim Jaskie, jim_jaskie@tempeqm.sps.mot.com writes:
>world. I believe each phone will be equipped with a GPS also. With one
>of these phones on board, you literally could dial 911 and ask the Coast
>Guard to drop their donuts and come help. ;>)

Didn't the marines call in an air strike in the Grenada invasion? Seems they were pinned down in a chapel, and one of the marines used his calling card to call back to the states and getting an operations officer for forward their request for an air strike.....

Wonder where his telegraph key was then.....:-))

BTW Jim, I like your tag line!!

Rick Aldom

Instead of giving politicians the keys to the city, maybe we should change the locks!!

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1993 16:06:17 GMT

From: spsgate!mogate!newsgate!news@uunet.uu.net

Subject: FCC doesn't care; was: Credit for Extra on Commercial License?

To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

In article <26lnla\$9i@chnews.intel.com> jlbromley@sedona.intel.com (Jim Bromley, W5GYJ) writes:

> ...

> I think that if the FCC *really* cared about the quality of radio
> operators they would not have relinquished control over the examination
> process (commercial and amateur). Don't misunderstand me. The VE
> system is one of the best things to happen to amateur radio in its
> history. Still, it seems like the FCC is moving to a "don't care"
> position on commercial operator licensing. And maybe amateur as well.
> ...

I think it's partly a matter of don't care but also a lot of can't care. They just don't have the funding to be able to do much about it. And with Radio Shack, J.C. Whitney, Penney's, and probably eventually K-Mart and Walgreens selling ham gear and/or GMRS radios it's going to be virtually impossible to enforce licensing rules anyway. They (FCC) will have to concentrate on keeping the important bands (public safety, military, aircraft) free of encroachment by the masses and that will likely take all their funding.

I'm not passing judgement on the above mentioned businesses, just making an observation.

73.... Mark AA7TA

Date: Thu, 9 Sep 1993 05:03:40 GMT

From: sdd.hp.com!math.ohio-state.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!
moe.ksu.ksu.edu!hobbes.physics.uiowa.edu!news.uiowa.edu!icaen.uiowa.edu!

drenze@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: FCC Regs?

To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

Sorry to post this here, but this is probably the best place to post this..
I recently became aware of a number of local CB'ers using the nifty high-powered linear amps to boost their signal to the general area of 250+ watts (this was through a bout with RFI).

Q -- advice on what (if anything) I should do? I've solved my immediate

RFI problem, but should I report them to the proper authorities? And who are the proper authorities to report them to anyway?

Tnx es 73 de Doug NOZ??
03W 03D 11H 4M and counting...

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__  /|  | Douglas J Renze          | Charter Member, Popular Front
\ 'o.o' | +1 319 337 4664          | for Revolutionary Darwinism:
=(___)= | drenze@isca.uiowa.edu    |
      U  | Douglas-Renze@uiowa.edu | Evolution Now!
```

Date: 9 Sep 1993 14:53:44 GMT
From: topaz.bds.com!topaz.bds.com!ron@uunet.uu.net
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <1993Sep5.153325.1340@miavx3.mid.muohio.edu>,
<26jaev\$poi@chnews.intel.com>, <1993Sep8.104054.1351@miavx3.mid.muohio.edu>
Subject : Re: Credit for Extra on Commercial License?

hat, Jim, is EXACTLY what is happening. The FCC is contracting with private firms to take on the examination process. It is, though, a different group ... not the ham VEs ... that'll be doing the work.

Sure why not. The FCC seems to be patterning itself after the FAA which has already done just that quite successfully. I tell you it's likely to be quite an improvement, just like getting the ham tests to the VE's. The FCC has been scaling back the commerical exams (and actively discouraging people from getting commercial licenses) which were never too easy to schedule anyhow.

-Ron

Date: 9 Sep 1993 14:55:34 GMT
From: topaz.bds.com!topaz.bds.com!ron@uunet.uu.net
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <1993Sep5.153325.1340@miavx3.mid.muohio.edu>,
<26jaev\$poi@chnews.intel.com>, <rcrw90-080993100617@node_142cf.aieg.mot.com>
Subject : Re: Credit for Extra on Commercial License?

The shipboard argument is that sattelite based systems are replacing the need for radio ops. You just call "911" if the ship is sinking I guess :-)

You don't even do that. You push a button and your ship identification and position is continually reported to a satellite until your ship is so far underwater that the radio waves can't make it out anymore.

Operational communications is pretty much all going the way of satellite based telex-like messages.

-Ron

Date: 9 Sep 93 06:57:36 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!spool.mu.edu!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!news.kei.com!ddsw1!indep1!
clifto@network.ucsd.edu
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <steveWCopxL.DBy@netcom.com>, <1993Sep2.202221.24228@pixar.com>,
<265qlq\$s8o@crcnis1.unl.edu>to
Subject : Re: TVI Inteference Poll

In article <265qlq\$s8o@crcnis1.unl.edu> mcduffie@unlinfo.unl.edu (Gary McDuffie Sr) writes:

>bruce@mongo.Com (Bruce Perens) writes:

>>I'm about to pass out another 50 notices since now that I have my Advanced

>>I'm on HF a lot more. I think most people here understand that having a ham in

>>the neighborhood can be nice when there's an earthquake or a huge fire.

>

>Talk about inviting trouble... You haven't been around long, have you?

Boy, you're not kidding. At my last place, I put up with twelve years of interference from the landlord's fishtank heater (he lived on the first floor, I under him). I persuaded him to let me put up a 2-meter antenna on the building, and it wasn't a full HOUR before he had me in his place, showing me the interference and asking me what I was doing to cause it! (The cure, of course, had nothing to do with trying to persuade him that I hadn't yet hooked the antenna to the radio, or showing him that there was no connector on the end of the coax in the house; it was to have him watch TV while standing next to the fishtank so he could hear the audible click when the interference happened.)

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+-----+
|  Cliff Sharp  |      clifto@indep1.chi.il.us   OR  clifto@indep1.uucp   |
|   WA9PDM     |      Use whichever one works   |
+-----+
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End of Ham-Policy Digest V93 #330
